King and JFK assassination records appeals Harold Weisberg 7/28/80
SA names withheld
under (b)(1) and (7) claims

There came a time when you phoned to discuss the name of an SA you said you were satisfied should be withheld. It was, you said, an exceptional case. Before you could finish I said that had to be the Tampa matter, that while I was entirely without sympathy for the SA who would do such a thing or be part of it, I did have concerns for his family.

This evil thing, for your information, was the Lab's taking a batch of the FBI's tapes of Dr. King and from them creating a single tape that was sent to his wife, with a letter suggesting that only suicide remained for him.

I've often wondered how I knew that of all places this Washington FBI concoction had been mailed from Tampa.

Now I know: it was disclosed, along with the SA's name, Lish Whitson.

If you ever want the name of the SA in the Lab who created this tape by careful selections from other tapes, that, too, has been disclosed and I can provide it.

At no time and in no factual way has the FBI disputed my representation that the extensive disclosures of FBI names did not lead to harassment and that the real reasons are Cointelproing requesters, intimidating the courts, and trying to avoid embarrassment to the FBI.

If there is any one matter over which harassment might be expected it is over this FBI attempt to drive King to suicide and at least ruin his marriage. Now that I can inform you that the names are disclosed, I ask you to show that there was harassment.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

E. Early 1965

On January 5, 1965, Atlanta advised Headquarters that King was becoming more and more upset, that he blamed the FBI and felt his phone was tapped. On the same day a report was made on the previously ordered review of King's writings and books in an effort to detect possible communist influence. The conclusion was that there were certain parallels but no casual link. On January 6, New York was directed to discreetly cover King in New York by physical and electronic surveillance because he might meet a woman there. The memo indicated, "security is paramount". Also on the sixth the SAC in Atlanta called the Bureau and reported that the wiretaps indicated that King was very nervous and upset and was not sleeping well. He believed the Bureau had his phone tapped. King said a tape and letter which referred to the . . . . . (b)(7)(C) . . . . . had been sent to his home and his wife had read the letter. King said: "They are out to break me". The SAC knew nothing of the tape. King said in a tapped conversation that he needed to talk with Hoover or DeLoach. (u)

The so-called (b)(7)(C) . . . . had actually been mailed in late November 1964 by Lish Whitson, a former agent who flew to Florida at Sullivan's instructions. Sullivan had previously told [. . . (b)(7)(C). . . . .] to keep the microphone tapes together. Phillips was told to give some of the tapes to John Matter of the lab. He now thinks he . . . . . (b)(7)(C) . . . . . When Matter returned the tapes, there was a composite added. Sullivan had [(b)(7)(C)] get him non-watermarked stationery. Sullivan took the tapes and the stationery and later gave [(b)(7)(C)] a package to deliver to Whitson. The tape was accompanied by a letter advising King that . . . . . (b)(7)(C) . . . . . Apparently King did not listen to the tape until he returned from Oslo. His wife is supposed to have listened to it also. (u)

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Murphy Report (CRD) 3/31/76

KING,

[redacted] I will not dignify your name with either a Mr. or a Reverend or a Dr. And, your last name calls to mind only the type of King such as King Henry the VIII [redacted]

King, look into your heart. You know you are a complete fraud and a great liability to all of us Negroes. White people in this country have enough frauds of their own but I am sure they don't have one at this time that is any where near your equal. You are no clergyman and you know it. I repeat you are a colossal fraud and an evil, vicious one at that. You could not believe in God [redacted] Clearly you don't believe in any personal moral principles.

King, like all frauds your end is approaching. You could have been our greatest leader. You, even at an early age have turned out to be not a leader but a dissolute, abnormal moral imbecile. We will now have to depend on our older leaders like Wilkins a man of character and thank God we have others like him. But you are done. Your "honorary" degrees, your Nobel Prize (what a grim farce) and other awards will not save you. King, I repeat you are done.

No person can overcome facts, not even a fraud like yourself, [redacted] I repeat - no person can argue successfully against facts. You are finished. [redacted] And some of them to pretend to be ministers of the Gospel. Satan could not do more. What incredible evilness. [redacted] King you are done.

The American public, the church organizations that have been helping - Protestant, Catholic and Jews will know you for what you are - an evil, abnormal beast. So will others who have backed you. You are done.

King, there is only one thing left for you to do. You know what it is. You have just 34 days in which to do (this exact number has been selected for a specific reason, it has definite practical significant. You are done. There is but one way out for you. You better take it before your filthy, abnormal fraddulant self is bared to the nation.